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## MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY

### RESOLUTION

*New Delhi, the 11th March, 1953*

No. P-3(201).—The existing Central Stores Purchase Organisation was set up as a result of recommendations made by the Stores Purchase Committee 1919-1920, which was presided over by Mr. F. D. Couchman, Member, Railway Board. There has been no comprehensive review of the activities of the Purchase Organisations since then and for some time past the Government of India have felt the necessity of considering whether the existing Organisations for, and the methods adopted in, purchasing stores in India and abroad are adequate to deal with the range and variety of stores which have to be purchased, having regard to the expanding activities of a modern democratic State. The volume, value, variety and complexity of stores which have to be purchased now, have undergone much change and it is essential that the Purchase Organisation should be able to secure the requirements of Government without undue delay and with due regard to development of Indian industries, efficiency and economy. It is essential that there should be careful planning of requirements by users and of purchase, inspection and payments to contractors for stores supplied.

2. Government recently appointed Regional Stores Purchase Committees to review and make recommendations regarding the organisation and working of the India Store Department, London, and the India Supply Mission, Washington. These Committees have completed their work and their Reports are under consideration. Government have now decided to appoint a Stores Purchase Committee to examine the working of the Central Stores Purchase Organisation in India with the following terms of reference:—

- (1) To examine the scope and functions of the Central Purchasing Organisation in India and the extent of delegation of powers necessary for the indenting departments for direct purchases with particular reference to specialised stores and special or emergent demands; and to consider the advisability of utilising the Central Purchasing Organisation for purchases by State owned industrial enterprises and important River Valley and other Projects.
- (2) To examine the organisation of the Central Purchasing Agency and to consider re-organisation, that may be necessary, including the extent of powers, provision of adequate and suitable personnel to man the organisation, scales of pay, service conditions, technical qualifications of the staff etc., with a view to secure greater efficiency.
- (3) To consider the manner of determination of Government demands and the authorities at appropriate levels competent for approving such demands, rationalised planning, provisioning and indenting of stores and screening and processing of such demands and the procedure for the communication of sanctions and contracts to Audit.

- (4) To examine the procedure and methods of purchase, progressing of deliveries and payment of bills with special reference to avoidance of delays and achieving better results in respect of quality and economy.
- (5) To examine the procedure of inspection of stores by various agencies and to suggest general improvements, including simplification and rationalisation of procedure.
- (6) To examine the working of the stores purchasing system in relation to assistance to articles of Indian manufacture and encouragement to small scale and cottage industries.
- (7) To examine whether any modifications are required in the general conditions of the Contract, in particular whether the Arbitration procedure now in force in the supply contracts is suitable.
- (8) To examine the policy, procedure and method of disposal of surplus stores with particular reference to their utilisation against Governmental requirements.
- (9) To examine any other matters considered to be relevant to this enquiry

3. The Committee will have before it the Reports of the Regional Stores Purchase Committees, London and Washington, and having regard to the recommendations made by these Committees, it will also consider how better co-ordination could be secured between the different Purchase Organisations in India and abroad.

4. The Stores Purchase Committee will consist of:

Shri S. N. Buragohain, Deputy Minister, W. H. & S.—*Chairman*.

*Members.*

Shri T. Sivasankar, I.C.S., Joint Secretary, Ministry of Irrigation & Power.

Shri M. P. Pai, I.C.S., Ministry of Production.

Shri N. M. Buch, I.C.S., Director General (Supplies & Disposals).

Shri N. N. Wanchoo, I.C.S., Joint Secretary, Ministry of Defence.

Shri K. R. P. Aiyangar, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance (I. & C. Division).

Shri K. L. Ghei, O.S.D. (Stores Re-Organisation Ministry of Railways).

Shri G. S. Rau, Accountant General, on Special Duty, Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

Shri D. P. Karnik—*Secretary*.

3. The Committee will have its Headquarters in New Delhi and will submit its report to Government as early as possible.

S. RANGANATHAN, Joint Secy.